

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

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P R 171630Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4201

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4560

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AVEROFF ON
CYPRUS COUP.

. FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AVEROFF (ERE) CALLED AT HIS
REQUEST ON ADCM THIS MORNING. AFTER NOTING HE WAS
WELL-KNOWN FRIEND AND DEFENDER OF U.S., HE
SAID HE HAD COME TO REGISTER "VERY STRONG REACTION" OF
MANY GREEKS RESULTING FROM FACT U.S. HAD NOT PUBLICLY
OPPOSED "BLATANT GOG INTERVENTION" IN CYPRUS. HE ARGUED
U.S. WAS IN PROCESS OF LOSING ITS LAST FRIENDS HERE. HE
PARTICULARLY DEPLOYED CHARACTER OF U.S. STATEMENT IN UNSC
JULY 16 AND FACT AMB. SCALI HAD NOT EXPOSED "DIRTY BLOODY
LIES OF FASCIST GREEK REPRESENTATIVE." HE FAILED TO
UNDERSTAND WHY U.S. HAD NOT TAKEN INITIATIVE IN SEEKING
RESOLUTION FOR IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF ALL FIGHTING ON
ISLAND.

2. DESCRIBING PRESENT GREEK REGIME AS A "BUNCH OF
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GANGSTERS", HE SAID HE FOUND IT INCREDIBLE THAT WITH

OBVIOUS MOTIVE OF STRENGTHENING THEIR OWN POSITION IN GREECE THEY COULD INITIATE "FRATRICIDAL BLOODSHED" IN CYPRUS SO THAT GREEKS WERE SHOOTING EACH OTHER, NOT TO MENTION FACT DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS WAS SNUFFED OUT AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM ABOLISHED. HE CLAIMED IOANNIDES HAD SENT HIGH-RANKING GREEK OFFICER (NAME HE GAVE WAS COLONEL KONDIKIS) TO ISLAND FIVE DAYS BEFORE COUP. GREEK AMBASSADOR LAGAKOS AND COMMANDERS OF NATIONAL GUARD AND ELDYK HAD THEN BEEN RECALLED TO ATHENS, ALLEGEDLY FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETING TO CONSIDER MAKARIOS JULY 6 LETTER, BUT IN FACT AS RUSE TO FOOL MAKARIOS WHO HAD CONTINUED DESPITE GREEK ARGUMENTS TO HOLD FIRM ON DEMANDS PUT FORWARD IN HIS LETTER. SUBVERSIVE INTENTIONS OF GOG, HE DECLARED, WERE PLAIN NOW THAT SAMPSON HAD BEEN NAMED PRESIDENT. HE SAID HE KNEW SAMPSON PERSONALLY, HAVING ARRANGED ACCOMMODATIONS FOR HIM IN ATHENS AFTER HIS RELEASE FROM BRITISH PRISON. HE SAID SAMPSON BRAGGED OPENLY ABOUT NUMBERS OF PEOPLE HE HAD KILLED AND ATROCITIES WHICH HE HAD PERSONALLY PERPETRATED. HE WAS HIRED KILLER TYPE WITHOUT ANY SCRUPLES.

3. ACTING DCM POINTED OUT THAT SITUATION ON ISLAND REMAINED UNCLEAR. SHE CALLED ATTENTION TO STATEMENTS DEPT. PRESS SPOKESMAN HAD MADE, NOTING THAT SCALI SPEECH IN UNSC FOLLOWED NORMAL PATTERN AND THAT INITIAL SC MEETING IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES COULD NOT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO GO ANY FURTHER THAN IT HAD DONE. AVEROFF SAID ACCOUNTS OF SC MEETING OVER BBC AND DEUTSCHE WELLE INDICATED THAT BRITISH, TURKISH, SOVIET AND, OF COURSE, CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVES HAD TAKEN MUCH STRONGER POSITION THAN U.S. AND SUCH BROADCASTS ONLY SOURCE OF GREEK INFORMATION.

4. AVEROFF SEEMED TO ASSUME MILITARY SITUATION ON ISLAND WAS UNDER CONTROL. AT SAME TIME, HE OBSERVED THAT HE WAS NOT ENTIRELY WITHOUT HOPE BECAUSE "MANY GREEK OFFICERS" WERE MOST UNHAPPY ABOUT CYPRUS INTERVENTION AND PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY FACT GREEKS FIGHTING GREEKS. HE ALSO REMAINED APPREHENSIVE ABOUT TURKISH REACTION.

5. AVEROFF SAID HE HOPED U.S. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT FAVORABLE
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EFFECT STRONG SOVIET OPPOSITION TO GOG INTERVENTION IN CYPRUS HAVING IN GREECE. HE ADDED THAT BOTH SOVIET CHARGE AND YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR HAD MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER KYPREOS, CHARGING GOG WITH DIRECT INTERVENTION AND FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR COUP, AS WELL AS PRESSING GOG TO WITHDRAW GREEK OFFICERS. HE UNDERSTOOD SOVIET CHARGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS HAD UNSUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT TO MAKE HIGHER LEVEL

DEMARCHE TO PRESIDENT GHIZIKES, BUT LATTER HAD INSISTED
HE MUST SEE FOREIGN MINISTER.

6. AVEROFF PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH STATEMENT HE ISSUED
JULY 16 DENOUNCING COUP AS "NATIONAL DISASTER", DECLARING
THAT FRATRICIDAL BLOODSHED MUST BE STOPPED, AND ASSERTING
THAT ANY COMPROMISE NOW ARRIVED AT ON CYPRUS PROBLEM
WOULD SECURE LESS THAN REGIME RESULTING FROM LONDON-ZURICH
AGREEMENTS. TEXT BEING POUCHED. TASCA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INTERVENTION, MEETINGS, MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS), DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATHENS04560
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740191-1129
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740743/aaaabknr.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19-Sep-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIEWS OF FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AVEROFF ON CYPRUS COUP.
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CY, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005